ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

When image data are compressed, a degree of image quality degradation can be recognized. At the time of compressing the image data, compression information is added as tag information in a file header of the image data. In this manner, by referring to the compression information, compression history of the compressed image data can be understood, and a degree of image quality degradation of the image data obtained by decompressing the compressed image data can be known.

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